

AMENDMENT

Kindly amend the claims as follows:
Please cancel claims 29-38. ✓

Please amend the claims as follows:

(Amended) A method of examining a biological sample for evidence of dysregulated cellular growth comprising comparing the status of 20P1F12/TMPRSS2 in a corresponding biological sample to the status of 20P1F12/TMPRSS2 in a corresponding sample wherein alterations in the status of 20P1F12/TMPRSS2 in the biological sample with dysregulated cellular growth.

7. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein growth is indicative of a prostate cancer.

20. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein growth is indicative of a colon cancer.

(a) examining 20P1F12/TMPRSS2 in a biological sample obtained from the individual; and
(b) examining the individual for evidence of dysregulated cellular growth; wherein a coincidence of (a) and (b) indicates that the biological sample obtained from the individual with dysregulated cellular growth is indicative of a prostate cancer.

A 5

28. (Amended) The method of claim 27, wherein the 20P1F12/TMPRSS2 evaluated in the test biological sample is secreted from cells exhibiting dysregulated growth.

Please add the following claims:

39. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein said test biological sample is derived from an individual wherein said neoplasm indicates cancer in the individual, comprising:
examining the individual for the presence of a factor associated with dysregulated cellular growth;

wherein a coincidence of 20P1F12/TMPRSS2 gene expression in the test biological sample obtained from the individual and the presence of the factor associated with dysregulated cellular growth is indicative of the cancer.

40. (New) The method according to claim 39, wherein the cancer is a prostate cancer.

41. (New) The method according to claim 39, wherein the cancer is a colon cancer.

A 6
42. (New) The method according to claim 39, wherein the factor associated with dysregulated cellular growth is an increase in the level of prostate specific antigen expression.

43. (New) The method according to claim 39, wherein the test biological sample is selected from the group consisting of blood, serum, stool, urine, semen and biopsied tissue.

44. (New) The method according to claim 39, wherein the 20P1F12/TMPRSS2 gene expression in the test biological sample is evaluated by examining the level of 20P1F12/TMPRSS2 mRNA expression or the level of 20P1F12/TMPRSS2 polypeptide expression.

45. (New) The method according to claim 39, wherein the 20P1F12/TMPRSS2 gene expression in the test biological sample is evaluated by a method selected from the group

consisting of Southern analysis, northern analysis, polymerase chain reaction analysis and immunoassay.

46. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the 20P1F12/TMPRSS2 gene expression in a test biological sample is evaluated by an immunoassay which measures the concentration of free 20P1F12/TMPRSS2 polypeptide or the concentration of 20P1F12/TMPRSS2 polypeptide complexed to a binding partner.

47. (New) The method of claim 46, wherein the 20P1F12/TMPRSS2 evaluated in the test biological sample is secreted from cells exhibiting dysregulated growth.